

## VIRGINIA HUD LINES

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### E-Briefs from the Richmond Office of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

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#### HUD, VA & HHS ANNOUNCE \$35 MILLION NOFA TO HELP CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

Calling it a "real investment toward meeting the needs of our most vulnerable neighbors," HUD Secretary Mel Martinez has joined with Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson and Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi to announce the availability of \$35 million in funds from the three agencies to "to provide permanent housing, health care and supportive services to those experiencing chronic or long-term homelessness." HUD will contribute \$20 million, HHS \$10 million and VA \$5 million to the effort, an initiative of the Interagency Council on

Homelessness that has been revitalized during the current Bush Administration. Copies of the Notice of Funding Availability are on-line at

<http://www.ich.gov/library/2003nofa/index.html> The application deadline is April 14, 2002.

#### FHA HAS RECORD YEAR IN VIRGINIA

2002 was a record year for FHA in Virginia, with 44,855 mortgages worth \$5.5 billion insured in the Commonwealth. Records were also broken in markets across the state. FHA insured its 2,500<sup>th</sup> mortgage in the Harrisonburg area, its 4,500<sup>th</sup> mortgage in the Winchester area, its 6,000<sup>th</sup> mortgage in the Radford area, its 7,000<sup>th</sup> mortgage in the Charlottesville area and its 150,000<sup>th</sup> mortgage in the Tidewater area. More than \$200 million in mortgages has now been insured by FHA in the Staunton-Waynesboro area and more than \$500 million in the Lynchburg area. FHA insured more than 1,000 mortgages in the Roanoke area for the 7<sup>th</sup> straight year, total dollar value in the Richmond-Petersburg area topped \$500 million for the 10<sup>th</sup> straight year and, for the first time ever, FHA insured more than \$350 million in a single year in the Fredericksburg area.

#### !!! NEWS FLASH !!!

FHA Mortgagee Letter 2003-02 says that, effective January 22<sup>nd</sup>, "FHA will no longer require approval of" Planned Unit Developments "as a precondition for placing FHA mortgage insurance on a dwelling located in the development." Letter is on-line at [www.hudclips.orgsub\\_nonhud](http://www.hudclips.orgsub_nonhud)

#### BRIEF BRIEFS

President Bush's proposed fiscal year 2004 HUD budget would mean \$5.7 million more in HOME Investment Partnership funds for Virginia communities. . . *Virginian-Pilot* reports University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee study declares Tidewater area "the most racially-integrated metropolitan area in the nation" . . . DHCD recommends water projects in Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee and Wise counties, a sewer project in Smyth County, a fiber optic training center at Southwest Community College, a traditional music center in Clintwood, a community center in Grayson County, a child health program in Craig and Botetourt counties, and a wetlands center in St. Paul for total of \$3.5 million in Appalachian Regional Commission funding. . . Accessible Housing of South Hampton Roads goes on-line at [www.accessiblehousingcorp.org](http://www.accessiblehousingcorp.org). . . Federal Home Loan Bank Board of Atlanta sets March 10<sup>th</sup> as registration deadline to apply for \$13.2 million in Affordable Housing Program grants. . . March 7<sup>th</sup> is deadline for comments on HUD's proposed rule on participation of faith-based organizations that was published in *Federal Register* on January 6<sup>th</sup>. . . *Roanoke Times* credits Total Action Against Poverty's YouthBuild program with helping "reduce Roanoke's drop-out rate" to 4.6 percent "during the past year". . . DHCD sets February 15<sup>th</sup> as deadline to register for its Appalachian telecommunications symposium in Abingdon March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. . . Ginnie Mae says that on July 1<sup>st</sup> it will cut from 44 to 19 the minimum basis points lenders must set-aside for servicing of mortgages under GNMA II mortgage-backed securities program. . . Secretary Martinez says HUD's proposed budget would provide \$2 million more for "breaking down" regulatory barriers to affordable housing. . . VHDA announces increases in allowable financing under First Time Homebuyer program and on second mortgages in its FHA-Plus program at [www.vhda.com](http://www.vhda.com). . . Applications for HUD Secretary's Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation are due March 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### SPARC-ING HOMEOWNERSHIP

The Virginia Housing Development Authority has awarded 24 organizations a total of \$51 million under the second round of its Sponsoring Partnerships & Revitalizing Communities homeownership among low-income Virginians. Financed by mortgage revenue bonds, half of this year's SPARC allocation is loaned at one percent and the balance at half-a-percent less than VHDA's normal low-interest rate, currently between 4 and 4.5 percent. "Programs like SPARC demonstrate what we mean when we characterize VHDA as a mobilizing force for affordable housing," said VHDA Executive Director Susan Dewey, who expects the funds to finance more than 470 single-family units. This year's SPARC winners include the Arlington Housing Corporation, Arlington County, Alexandria, Community Housing Partners, Giles County Housing Development Corporation, James City County, Loudoun County, Manassas Housing Trust Fund, Nelson County Community Development Corporation, Pear Tree Meadow, Prince William County, Telamon, the Town of Pulaski, Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation, and housing authorities in Alexandria, Chesapeake, Danville, Fairfax, Hampton, Norfolk, Suffolk, Waynesboro and Williamsburg.

#### BRIEF BRIEFS, TOO

Public comment period ends March 14<sup>th</sup> on HUD Secretary Martinez's proposal - FR-4722 Lender Accountability for Appraisals - to make lenders accountable for appraisals on FHA-insured mortgages. . . HUD Richmond okays 65-unit, \$4.4 million phase-two of Sullivan House elderly housing in Virginia Beach. . . Governor Warner awards nearly \$300,000 for small business incubators in Radford, Monterey, Richmond, Martinsville, Winchester and Floyd, Nottoway and Orange counties. . . Fannie Mae Foundation accepting nominations for Maxwell Award at [www.fanniemae.foundation.org/grants/maxwell\\_awards](http://www.fanniemae.foundation.org/grants/maxwell_awards) until February 21<sup>st</sup>. . . Richmond Redevelopment & Housing welcomes U.S. Supreme Court decision to hear appeal of *Commonwealth v. Hicks* involving Authority's trespass policy. . . National Reverse Mortgage Lenders says Richmond was 9<sup>th</sup> "hottest" HECM market in 2002. . . After 13 shows in Chesapeake, 6 in Virginia Beach and 1 in Chesapeake, Tidewater Builders Association holds Homearama in Portsmouth. . . Beaumont Foundation accepting applications at [www.bmtfoundation.com](http://www.bmtfoundation.com) until March 31<sup>st</sup> for grants of Toshiba computers to schools and community groups. . . Harrison Museum of African American Culture, opened with HUD grant in 1985, says it will move to Dumas Center downtown next year. . . Thomas & Cheryl McClinton are 100<sup>th</sup> family to buy Community Housing Partners home in Virginia Beach. . . Peninsula Habitat for Humanity celebrates opening of "Re-Store" in Newport News.

#### DON'T FORGET!

"How To Start and Run a HUD Housing Counseling Agency" Workshop from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at the Comfort Inn and Conference Center, West Broad Street. To register, contact [anne\\_davis@hud.gov](mailto:anne_davis@hud.gov) or [Virginia\\_Holman@hud.gov](mailto:Virginia_Holman@hud.gov)